

IV. REMARKS

1. Claims 1, 7, 12, 16 and 30 are amended. Claim 15 is amended to correct a typographical error. Claims 6 and 14 are cancelled without prejudice. Claim 35 is new.

2. Applicant appreciates the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter in claims 6, 7, 14, 16-18, 20, 21 and 30.

Claim 1 is amended to include the limitations of claim 6 and should now be allowable. Claims 3-5, 7, 28, 29 and 31 should also be allowable by reason of their respective dependencies.

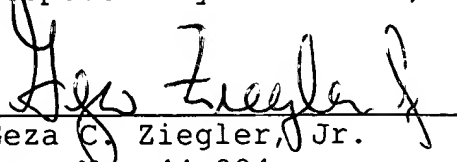
Claim 12 is amended to include the limitations of claim 14 and should now be allowable. Claims 15-21 should be allowable by reason of their dependencies.

Claim 35 is the combination of claim 1 and claim 30, indicated as being allowable.

For all of the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims now present in the application are clearly novel and patentable over the prior art of record, and are in proper form for allowance. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested. Should any unresolved issues remain, the Examiner is invited to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

A check in the amount of \$450 is enclosed for a two-month extension of time. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment for any fees associated with this communication or credit any over payment to Deposit Account No. 16-1350.

Respectfully submitted,


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14 December 2004
Date

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date indicated below as first class mail in an envelope addressed to MAIL STOP AMENDMENT, Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Date: 14 December 2004

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